

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21-23, 26-28, 30, 31, 33 and 34 are pending, in which claims 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 29 and 32 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26 and 30 are currently amended. Claims 4, 9, 14, 19 and 24 were previously canceled.


The final Office Action mailed January 26, 2006 rejected claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21-23, 26-28, 30, 31, 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by *Wiedeman et al.* (US 6,985,454), and rejected claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21-23, 26-28, 30, 31, 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by *Aldred et al.* (US 6,209,036).

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 29 and 32 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26 and 30 to incorporate the allowable features of dependent claims 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 29 and 32 (now canceled), respectively.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (301) 601-7252 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


5-19-2006

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